

**Lesson 2: Herbivores or Carnivores****Objective:**

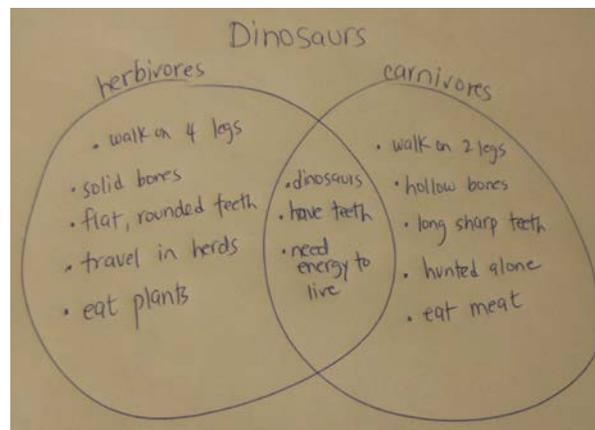
1. Students will identify dinosaurs as consumers, as herbivores or carnivores.

**Materials:**

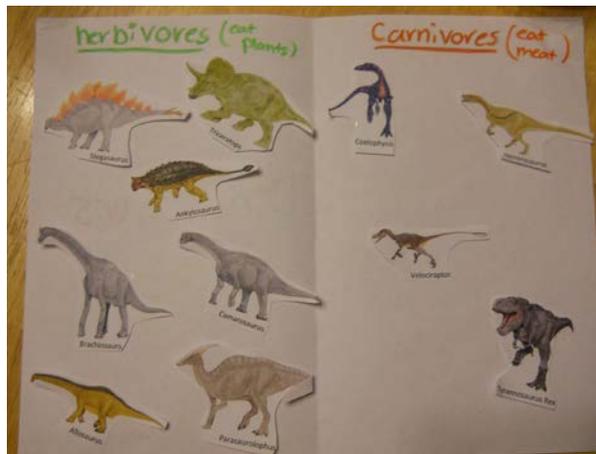
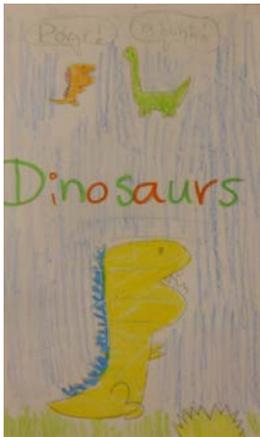
- **Dinosaur Pictures** PowerPoint Slide or printed document
- Class set of **Document: Dinosaurs**
- Class set of construction paper
- Color pencils, crayons, and glue
- Vocabulary Cards (herbivore, carnivore, consumer)

**Procedure:**

1. Show your students the **Dinosaur Pictures** of the Tyrannosaurus rex, Velociraptor, Triceratops, and Brachiosaurus.
2. Ask your students to compare and contrast the characteristics of the dinosaurs. Students may notice that the Tyrannosaurus rex and the Velociraptor both walked on two legs, had sharp teeth and sharp claws. The Triceratops and Brachiosaurus walked on four legs and did not have sharp teeth or claws.
3. Guide them to identify the Tyrannosaurus rex and Velociraptor as meat eaters, or carnivores, and the Triceratops and Brachiosaurus as plant eaters, or herbivores. Stress that all of the dinosaurs are consumers because they ate.
4. On the board, model a Venn diagram with herbivores labeled on one circle and carnivores on the other. Label your diagram. Students should copy the diagram in their notebooks. Ask students to help add information to the diagram. *Carnivores walked on two legs, had sharp claws, sharp teeth, and had hollow bones so they were fast. Herbivores walked on four legs, had flat or rounded teeth, had long tails, and usually traveled in herds.*



5. Distribute the document, **Document: Dinosaurs** and construction paper to each student.
6. Students should fold the construction paper in half, label one side "herbivore" and the other side "carnivore."
7. Ask your students to look at the information in their Venn diagram and infer which dinosaurs ate meat and which ate plants. Students will cut and paste the dinosaurs in the appropriate column. When finished, they can decorate the front of their construction paper.



### Extension Ideas:

1. KLRN PBS LearningMedia:  
<http://klrn.pbslearningmedia.org>  
On PBS LearningMedia, search: Living Together in an Ecosystem. It is an animated clip highlighting dinosaurs that were herbivores and carnivores that lived together and ate different food.
2. Students can select either to research for more information about herbivores or carnivore. They can create a PowerPoint presentation to present the information they learned.